

To Whom it May Concern,

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I am writing to express my concern in regards to petition 98P-0151/CPI.

I greatly encourage granting this crucial petition, as it is high time that the people and leaders of America work forcefully to abolish cruel practices such as the shameful downed animal trade.

Though the USDA has already announced a policy to stop purchasing meat from downed cows for Federal programs, further steps must be taken to expand on this positive action, and to ensure that such action is enforced.

Animals who are injured and sick-downers- should surely not be allowed to enter the human food chain. Furthermore, these animals are typically dragged with chains and pushed with tractors, painfully and cruelly resulting in abrasions, broken bones and torn ligaments. Industry experts estimate that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling; by removing the market for downed animals, we can provide incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place. Because they comprise a small percentage of slaughtered animals, prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue

98P-0151

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economic hardship. Please give this
the deep consideration it deserves. Thank you
for your time.

Sincerely,
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